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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1955

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HONGKONG & KOWLOON

COMMENT OF THE DAY

Budget Outlook

NEXT Wednesday is Budget Day, and the community is beginning to wonder what the Financial Secretary has in store. It would be unwise to expect more light than shade in his estimates for the coming financial year.

Certain uncomfortable facts were disclosed last March by Government. One was that the Colony's revenue potential had just about reached maximum point; the other that expenditure on public works and other projects must continue to increase if the Colony is to progress with the times.

From that was logically deduced the eventualities of annual deficits unless measures were introduced to increase revenue. Hence the warning of more taxation. Two things may be assumed about the next financial year. One, that short of imposing new taxation burdens, the Treasury cannot expect a revenue intake much in excess of the year now ending; two, that expenditure will be considerably higher than in the current year. In other words, based on the Financial Secretary's observations of last March, he will have to budget next year for a deficit.

A BUDGET deficit, estimated or actual, is a new experience for Hongkong, but if it transpires, there is no need for it to generate panic. But it could, and should, stimulate a more realistic appreciation of the fact that, as with the lady in Christopher Fry's play, money "is not for burning."

Likewise, it is sincerely hoped, if the Financial Secretary finds himself confronted with a "wrong-sided" Budget, he will not automatically persuade himself that the position demands more taxation.

For the current financial year, Mr. Clarke estimated a nominal surplus of \$114 million. Final figures should show it to be very much more substantial. Wherefore any such unexpected (?) surplus should be considered at least as a part offset to any deficit which might be forecast for 1955-56.

Before Government succumbs to the temptation of raising taxation rates and imposts, there exists two joint means of bringing ordinary revenue and expenditure closer together. They are careful pruning and the judicious use of accumulated surplus funds.

THE community is avaricious in its demands for more education, more social and welfare services, more medical and health facilities, but as it happens, when it comes to trying to finance an expansion programme from taxation, only a relatively small proportion of the community pay their part. The dangerous tendency is to create a welfare state without being able to call on all the beneficiaries to make some sort of contribution towards its cost.

None will deny the difficult dilemma which besets Government. Ever since the war it has followed a bold policy of endeavouring to meet the constant challenge of providing the Colony with improved amenities. It is a costly business, and maybe not only is Hongkong reaching the ultimate in producing ordinary revenue, but it is also nearing the time when it must deny itself some of the ambitious schemes which it desires, but cannot honestly afford.

We await the Budget, fairly confident that the Financial Secretary will not have very good tidings for the Colony, but in the hope that the outlook will not be as black as he hinted a year ago it might become.

Snowdrifts 20ft High: Bus Passengers Marooned: Starving Moor Ponies Raid Gardens NEW BLIZZARDS SCOURGE BRITAIN

Atomic Radiation On Human Life

Fresh Knowledge

New York, Feb. 24. Facts about effects of atomic radiation on human life will be a major contribution of Japanese scientists to the international atomic-for-peace conference at Geneva next August.

Professor Uoshio Fujioke, Japanese physicist, told a press conference at United Nations today that the Japanese delegates intended to "present many papers on radiation biology" to the conference.

Their material would be based on the results of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima, Nagasaki and what he called "the unfortunate event around Bikini atoll."

The professor was a spokesman for the Japanese scientists visiting the United States.

There was speculation that the Japanese might have sought to obtain materials for the setting up of an atomic pile, but Professor Fujioke indicated that his country's physicists looked to Japan itself to produce their requirements.

He said a programme was under way to investigate the atomic potentialities of Japan, but so far no evidence had been found "that we can get much uranium" though as little as three tons would be enough for an experimental pile.

He added: "We have been thinking about the production of heavy water in Japan. Maybe we can get it in a few years."

"I do not know if there have been any negotiations between Japan and the United States Government about the granting to us of atomic materials. We are only scientists."

He admitted that at present it was impossible for Japan to build an atomic reactor, but he hoped that an experimental reactor might be set up in due course.—Reuter.

DIAMONDS FOR HK FOUND

Rome, Feb. 25. Seven little metal boxes of cut diamonds addressed from Antwerp to Hongkong have been found among the wreckage of the Belgian Sabena airliner which crashed near Rieti, north of Rome on Feb. 13, it was disclosed here tonight.

One box was open, but the only cotton wool wrapped gem missing was soon found near by and handed over to the authorities investigating the crash.—France-Press.

Natives Slay Huks

Manila, Feb. 25. Eleven Huks, including two disarmed commanders, were slain by a band of 14 Igorots (native tribes) armed only with bows and arrows on Wednesday in Nueva Vizcaya Province in northern Luzon, it was learned from army sources last night.

The Huks, not identified, were killed in two separate attacks by tribesmen on Huk hideouts in the mountains of Nueva Vizcaya.—France-Press.

Beginning Tomorrow...

Tomorrow's China Mail — the big, feature-packed week-end edition — brings you two new series of articles: **The Great Gamblers and the Cloak and Dagger Squadron.** **THE GREAT GAMBLERS**, written by Julian Symonds tells about people who have gambled with fortune. And tomorrow the popular **cloak and dagger** series, written by Arthur James Cook, Miners' Federation Secretary, the man who told the Government: "To hell with the British Empire!"

CLOAK AND DAGGER SQUADRON is the story of 138 Squadron, the RAF's most fantastic unit. Leslie Montgomery tells Gordon Thomas some of the squadron's secret war-time exploits for the first time.

Also in this week's Saturday Mail, the Archbishop of Canterbury gives the Church of England's answer to the problem of divorce. Tony Motia, China Mail feature writer, spends an afternoon following a social worker and a worker on her rounds and see what service to others means.

These are just some of the highlights of this week's Saturday Mail — the family favourite with the latest and best selection of local and overseas news, features and pictures.

Temperature In Scotland Falls To Minus 19 Deg F.

LONDON, FEB. 24.

NEW BLIZZARDS SWEEPED BRITAIN TODAY AND BY THIS EVENING OVER EIGHTY MAIN ROADS IN ALL PARTS OF THE COUNTRY WERE BLOCKED.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE ROYAL AUTOMOBILE CLUB COMMENTED "BRITAIN IS ENTERING A NEW PHASE OF CHAOTIC ROAD CONDITIONS."

From Yorkshire, in the northwest, to Cornwall, in the southwest corner of England, reports spoke of cars and lorries marooned, villages cut off and snowdrifts ranging up to twenty feet deep.

Scotland "operation snowdrop" using RAF aircraft to drop fodder to snowbound sheep continued though mist hampered the drop.

Scotland expected a thaw but elsewhere in Britain more heavy snow was forecast.

On the Yorkshire moors snowploughs got through to three buses stranded overnight with 100 passengers aboard. They found the people none the worse. In this area snowploughs were hampered by winds blowing at 70 miles an hour.

Gales swept the East coast and many ships ran as speedily as they could to shelter. Reports tonight said 200 people were stranded in cars along a highway near Staines.

more, Yorkshire. The road was said to be sealed at both ends by snow.

The Air Ministry said helicopters were standing by to fly in food at first light tomorrow.

In Southwest England conditions were described as "the worst for 30 years." On the Devon moors, starving herds of wild ponies were raiding farms and gardens in search of food.

In this area lies the long sentence goal of Dartmoor, and parties of prisoners today toiled vainly to clear a path through a ten-foot snowdrift to that the local midwife could reach two expectant mothers.

A temperature of minus 19 degrees Fahrenheit was reported today from the Spey Valley, Northeast Scotland.

The Air Ministry spokesman said that if this were confirmed it would be the lowest ever recorded in Britain. (The coldest ever known in Scotland is minus 17° Fahrenheit—in 1895).—Reuter.



Here is a typical scene in Scotland created by the recent blizzards which have put the whole of Britain under snow. Sheep can be seen making the most of the little grass they can find on the higher slopes of a farm. In the background are farm buildings deep in snow.

The New GATT Benefits Commonwealth Nations

From M. S. Nutt

Geneva, Feb. 24.

The undeveloped parts of the Commonwealth will do better under the new General Agreements on Tariffs and Trade than they have been doing under the old one.

Final revision of GATT which has been in progress here since October last, is expected to be completed before next week.

But India, Ceylon and Pakistan are already very happy with the new concessions given them on the use of tariffs and restrictions to protect their new and developing industries.

This progress covers only those underdeveloped areas which are independent nations. The position of the colonies which are regarded as dependent parts of Britain is being dealt with separately.

The British Government's plan to give them as well as senior members of the Commonwealth, a better chance of developing their industries is still under examination behind closed doors.

The investigating committee is expected to present its report to a full session of the 24-member nations of GATT, which the next two or three days.

STOP PRESS

Evacuation Of Nanchi

Taipei, Feb. 25. The Nationalist government is at present evacuating troops from Nanchi Island, Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek's northeastern outpost off the coast of Chekiang province. Nationalist officials reported today.

The officials, who asked not to be named, said the evacuation of Nationalist troops from Nanchi Island, about 120 miles north of Formosa, began three days ago and was expected to be completed today.

They said there were about 3,000 Nationalist troops on the island, only 25 miles off China coast.—Reuter.

NO PLAY IN 5th TEST

What The Bangkok Talks Achieved

Bangkok, Feb. 25. The organisational meeting of the eight Manila Pact powers ends today with the first steps taken toward collective security against Communist expansion in Southeast Asia.

Paper pledges of the United States, Britain, Philippines, Pakistan, France, Australia, New Zealand and Thailand, made at Manila last September, of mutual co-operation against aggression have been turned into functioning machinery.

No great armies have been drawn together, but the significance of the line that has been drawn across Southeast Asia which, if crossed by Communist totalitarianism, would mean war.

4 ACCOMPLISHMENTS Here is what the Bangkok Conference actually accomplished.

1. The permanent operation Headquarters of the eight-nation Mutual Defence Agreement was established. Each member will have representatives of Ambassadorial rank on this council, which will in the broadest sense be a thermometer recording the fever of Communist expansion in Southeast Asia.

2. A military panel of experts from all members has been set up. It can meet anywhere, any time it wishes to discuss the defence of Southeast Asia. The panel is not similar to the European NATO setup, where actual divisions of Air and Naval forces are committed ready to fight. Instead, the SEATO panel will have paper commitments of available forces for use should certain situations arise.

The fact that no United States units are actually stationed among the member nations does not mean America cannot be committed. Mr. Dulles told the members in definite terms that US is ready to aid the allies under the Manila Pact if they are a target of aggression.

3. Experts on anti-subversion will meet to continually exchange intelligence on "Communist subversive plans" and new methods of combating them.

4. Economic specialists will be attached to the permanent representatives "to work out methods to better the economic health of Southeast Asia and to work on bilateral aid agreements.—United Press.

Mass Suicide Threat

Sao Paulo, Feb. 24. Some 1,000 members of a Japanese "suicide" sect today threatened to resort to violence or commit harikiri if they are not allowed to return home to liberate their country. "from Communism."

Members of the Cherry Tree Suicide Battalion, said they would carry out their threat tomorrow if the Japanese consuls did not grant them visas to return to Japan.

"Battalion" representatives and Japanese consular officials held talks tonight as the Brazilian police prepared to intervene on the expiration of the deadline set by the sect.—France-Press.

TUC WARNING

London, Feb. 24. The British Trades Union Congress tonight warned trade unionists against accepting invitations to visit countries behind the Iron Curtain.

The advice was contained in a pamphlet which said: "It should be remembered that the Russians exploit these tours to make the East European think that there is a large body of sentiment in the West which favours Russian policy.—France-Press.

Ground Under Water

Sydney, Feb. 25. A waterlogged ground and continuing rain prevented a start in the fifth and final Test match today between England and Australia.

Since Wednesday it has been pouring, preventing net practice for both sides yesterday.

If weather conditions permit, it is hoped to begin the match tomorrow.

Colin Cowdrey, the England batsman, entered a nursing home on the eve of the Test. But he is among 13 players named for the match.

Cowdrey had a high temperature on Wednesday.

OTHER CASUALTIES

England's other casualties, Frank Tyson (injured leg) and Trevor Bailey, who recently had a cast removed from a fractured finger, are among 13 players from whom the side will be chosen.

Alec Bedser, dropped after the first Test, and Tom Graveney, who did not play in the last two Tests, are also included.

The 13 are: Len Hutton, P. B. H. May, M. C. Cowdrey, W. J. Edrich, T. E. Bailey, D. C. S. Compton, T. W. Graveney, T. G. Evans, J. B. Statham, A. V. Bedser, J. H. Wardle, R. Appleyard and F. Tyson.

MADDOCKS UNWELL

Cliff Langley, the Australian wicket keeper, has been called to Sydney in care of Madlocks, who succeeded him in the team, is unfit.

Madlocks was taken ill last night while flying from Melbourne and was believed to be suffering from the effects of inoculations for the forthcoming Australian tour of the West Indies.

England, who have already made sure of retaining the Ashes, are 3-1 up in the series. Although the vicar-general has done his best to cover the pitch, rain has seeped through. The outfield is under water.—Reuter.



COLIN COWDREY, a doubtful starter

NYE BEVAN CENSURED

London, Feb. 24. British Labour Members of Parliament tonight backed Mr. Clement Attlee, their leader, against a challenge by Mr. Aneurin Bevan, who leads the leftwing of the Party over big power talks on Germany.

After a stormy two-hour meeting, the Parliamentary Party adopted, by 182 votes to 72, a motion "deprecating" Mr. Bevan's action in putting forward a House of Commons motion urging discussions with Russia before the Paris Agreement, which bring a new foreign West Germany into the Atlantic defence system, had been ratified.—Reuter.

Rock Crushes House

Catania, Feb. 24. Three of the five inhabitants of a cottage in Palagonia, near Catania, Sicily, were seriously injured when their home was crushed under a fall of a rock here today.

The rock, a great block of granite, broke loose from the cliff face.—France-Press.

"This is Hong Kong"

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AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.20 & 9.30 P.M. AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M. AT 2.30, 5.20, 7.30 & 9.40 P.M.

4 SHOWS TO-DAY

COMBINING THE EXCITING TALENTS OF FOUR ACADEMY AWARD WINNERS!

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AUDREY HEPBURN
WILLIAM HOLDEN

Sabrina

Produced and Directed by BILLY WILDER

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It's about Mrs. Leslie... and the man she never quite married!

SHIRLEY BOOTH
ROBERT RYAN
in HAL WALLIS' PRODUCTION
"ABOUT MRS. LESLIE"

Directed by MARIE MILLAR - ALEX NICOL
Directed by DANIEL MANN - ALEX NICOL

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TO-DAY AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.
ON PANORAMIC SCREEN

The Most Exciting Air Adventure Ever Filmed!
U.S. JET FIGHTERS IN KOREAN WAR
Based on Michener's Story
"CASE OF THE BLIND PILOT"

THRILLING and TERRIFIC!

McM presents
"MEN OF THE FIGHTING LADY"

STARRING VAN JOHNSON
WALTER PIDGEON - LOUIS CALHERN
DEWEY MARTIN - KEENAN WYNN - FRANK LOVEJOY

RITZ SHOWING TO-DAY

FIRST SHOWING IN KOWLOON.

DRAMA that rips and tears!

LINDA DARNELL
RICK JASON
DAN DURYEA
FAITH DOMERGUE

GET OUT!
THIS IS MY LOVE

TO-DAY ONLY MAJESTIC AT 2.30, 5.20, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.

Crimes of Paris

RAYMOND SOULEZ
JEAN DEBROUZE
DORA DOLL

TO-MORROW: "BLACK WIDOW" in Cinemascope

TURCO-IRAQI TREATY

Steady Date For Bing Crosby



Not running true to character these days are flamboyant world famous crooner Bing Crosby, and his steady date Mona Freeman. Bing dresses as conservatively as the next fellow, and Mona, previously the owner of conservative black ears, is now driving around town in a passion-pink convertible.—Express Photo.

Nuclear Research Must Go On

H-BOMB SCIENTIST'S VIEWS

Washington, Feb. 24. Dr Edward Teller, the atomic scientist generally credited with supplying the idea behind the hydrogen bomb, said today that perfection of the weapon must not end the search for new "accomplishments."

"The very size of our progress has opened up other dangers," Dr Teller said in an article in "Science," the publication of the American Society for the Advancement of Science.

DO NOT BELIEVE

"We may be led to think that this accomplishment is something ultimate. I do not believe that this is so. Where the next steps will lead I do not know. It is not likely that it will be just bigger bombs again. The world is full of surprises and great developments rarely go along straight lines.

"But the skills and the knowledge that developed the A-

bomb and the H-bomb can undoubtedly be turned to new directions, and we shall fail if we rest upon our accomplishments."

Dr Teller also paid tribute to the work of Dr Robert Oppenheimer, Director of Princeton's Institute for Advanced Studies, against whom he testified last year at a legally hearing of the Atomic Energy Commission.

Dr Oppenheimer's leadership during the war was a vital factor in the development of the atom bomb, Dr Teller said.—Reuter.

HOOVER TO-DAY ONLY

2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.

ZORRO'S SWORD STRIKES AGAIN!



WALTER CHIARI
DELIA SCALA
VITTORIO GASSMANN

STARTING TO-MORROW: A CHINESE PRODUCTION
Li Li-Hwa - Huang Ho - Wong Yuan Loong
in "THE LITTLE GIRL NAMED CABBAGE"

SIGNED

Egyptian Failure To Control The Arab League

Bagdad, Feb. 24.

Iraq and Turkey tonight signed a defence pact which has been sternly opposed by Egypt and several other Arab countries.

The agreement was signed by Turkish Premier Menderes and Iraqi Premier Nuri al Said.

The Iraqi Parliament is expected to ratify the pact next week.

Earlier, the Iraqi Cabinet had approved the final text of the pact after a meeting of the two Premiers to discuss certain amendments.

NOT KNOWN

The nature of the amendments is not yet known. But the pact is believed to cover military aid to any Middle Eastern state, including the rest of the Arab League, of which Iraq is a member. It requested for defence against "foreign aggression" from inside or outside the area.

It is the first time that an Arab League nation has signed a defence pact with Turkey, a member of the North Atlantic Pact.—Reuter.

The Arab world came face to face with a serious internal crisis today as the Premiers signed the pact, says United Press.

Since mid-January, when the Turks and Iraqis declared their intentions of signing the treaty, Arab League states have been divided into two camps.

Egypt and Saudi Arabia have bitterly opposed Iraq's policy. Syria, the Lebanon, Jordan and Libya have adopted a more or less pro-Iraq attitude. The Yemen has supported Egypt in a lukewarm manner.

Egypt has openly threatened to quit the Arab League's security pact if Iraq went through with the alliance with Turkey.

An Egyptian Foreign Office spokesman said today that Egypt persists in her determination to pull out of the security pact as soon as the Turco-Iraqi pact is signed.

He added significantly that "if the report is confirmed that Turkey has concentrated two divisions along the Syrian frontier and if the Turks commit any act of aggression toward Syria, then Egypt would execute the terms of the security pact which would entail giving military assistance to Syria."

POSSIBLE WITHDRAWAL

The spokesman explained that Egypt's possible withdrawal from the security pact would not prevent her from making new military agreements with Arab states refusing to line up with the Iraqis and the Turks.

Diplomatic circles in Cairo believe that Egypt, Saudi Arabia and probably Syria would become ardent supporters of the non-involvement policy advocated by the Prime Minister of India, Mr. Jawaharlal Nehru, and that this would become apparent at the conference of Asian and African powers in Bandung, Indonesia, in April. Such a development, they said, would be unsatisfactory to Western governments.—United Press.

A-HEADACHES

London, Feb. 24.

The atomic bomb may account for the considerable increase in the number of headaches in recent years, according to a report published today by a British doctor, Nevill Leyton, who runs Britain's only headache hospital.

Dr Leyton, whose hospital is at Putney, London, has treated 11,000 headache sufferers in the last five years.

He estimated in his report that the 2,000,000 British headache victims recorded in 1947 had increased to 3,000,000 by 1953.—France-Press.

DULLES NOT SELLING IN BURMA

Rangoon, Feb. 25. Mr John Foster, Dulles, the United States Secretary of State, who arrives in Rangoon tomorrow, will not try to draw Burma into the Southeast Asia Treaty Organisation, an American Embassy source said today.

The source said that Mr Dulles, coming straight from the SEATO conference in Bangkok, will not come to "sell" anything to Burma.

His visit is officially described as a "courtesy visit," but political circles here regard it as an indication of the growing stature of the Burmese Premier, U Nu, as a Southeast Asian leader.

Mr Dulles is known to have undertaken the visit on his own initiative, and reliable sources say that he specifically asked the Burmese Foreign Office to extend his meeting with U Nu "by at least half an hour" over the original 90 minutes set aside.

WIDE RANGE

The discussions between Mr Dulles and U Nu will be informal and will cover a wide range of subjects.

U Nu has never been openly critical of American actions in Asia. In fact, during his visit to Pokig last year, U Nu publicly praised America and the American people for their contributions towards the relief of economic distress in the world—the first time anyone had done so in China since the Communists took over.—Reuter.

WRONG NUMBER CAME UP

Paris, Feb. 24.

MME Bruyat had often tried her luck at the French national lottery, but without success. She had got her money back two or three times but had never been able to win a substantial amount of money.

She had given up buying tickets when she saw in her favourite newspaper an advertisement by a soothsayer who contended that she was able to forecast winning numbers.

She went to see her. She was told to pick up a ticket whose number ended with 73. But she could find none.

"Never mind—she said, I shall take the next best" and she bought a ticket ending by 74. Looking at the lottery results she only remembered the figure mentioned by the soothsayer—73—and when she saw no such number had won, she threw her ticket into the fire in an angry gesture.

Then she suddenly remembered that the ticket she had actually bought was 74. This ticket had won 1,000,000 francs. But she was too late—of the ticket she had thrown away she had kept no record.—France-Press.

QUEEN'S & ALHAMBRA

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Owing to length of picture please note change of times:
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Samuel Goldwyn presents
BOB HOPE
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ODILE VERSOIS
DAVID KNIGHT
in "The Young Lovers"

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ON OUR GIANT WIDE SCREEN!

BURT LANCASTER
APACHE
JEAN PETERS

POP

IS THERE A PENSION SCHEME HERE?

YES—WITH A RETIRING AGE OF EIGHTY

ISN'T THAT RATHER A LONG TIME?

NOT IN THIS JOB YOU'LL AGE VERY QUICKLY HERE!

Old established!

Smoking

UNREST IN NORTH AFRICA

Nationalists Watching Moves Of New French Government

Paris, Feb. 24.

French North Africa, seething with nationalist unrest, suspiciously watched today the first moves of the new Paris Government which pledged itself to liberal policies towards the Arabs.

While an armed truce continued in Tunisia, outlawry was rampant in neighbouring territories further to the west, Algeria and Morocco.

However, moderate nationalists in all these countries who prefer negotiations to open warfare received M. Edgar Faure's election as Premier rather sympathetically. What worries them is the nomination of various Ministers favouring status quo overseas.

At the St. Jean, Ben Ammar reported that the Tunisian Minister of the Interior, M. Faure, had held a meeting with the nationalist leaders in Tunis, and that the crisis-stalled, home-rule party will soon resume its work. He recalls that M. Faure was the first French Premier to take concrete action on Tunisian demands of greater freedom.

BLUNT STATEMENT

Early in 1952, while the protectorate was rocked by the worst ever anti-French rioting, M. Faure, then Premier, started French conservatives by his blunt statement: "We cannot keep in the freezer an 80-year-old protectorate treaty."

But M. Faure was not the only one to hold a "free" policy.

SHAVE OR NOT TO SHAVE

Wellington, Feb. 24.

Do bearded or clean shaven men make better Alpine climbers?

The nine New Zealanders who left here today to climb the 15,000-foot high Mt. Masherua in the Karakoram Himalayan range in Kashmir may be able to answer the puzzle.

Each member of the expedition carried an electric shaver in order to test whether or not they felt fresher when clean shaven. The youngest member of the expedition, 22-year-old John Hamilton, said that he intended to keep on shaving throughout the journey to compare notes with bearded companions. "Shaving certainly keeps you feeling fresh even when the going is tough," he said. —France-Press.

JUSTICE WAS SPEEDED UP

Los Angeles, Feb. 24.

A Los Angeles man thought that justice was slow, so yesterday he took the law into his own hands—and found that justice had suddenly speeded up.

For three years, the man had been suing a bookshop which had sold him a pair of shoes which hurt. Yesterday, he decided to put an end to the dispute. He went to the shop and fired six shots into the boxes which lined the wall.

No one was hurt, but justice was speeded up. The man is now in jail on a charge of attempted murder. —France-Press.

HOMAGE TO FRENCH ACADEMY MEMBERS

Paris, Feb. 24.

Members of the French Academy met today to render homage to Paul Claudel and Andre Chamoux, both members who died of heart attacks yesterday.

Count Robert Harnon presiding over the session said that Claudel's death at the age of 67 was a loss to the entire universe of letters.

"All those who have had the opportunity of representing our country abroad know the immense public that our literary patriarchy had throughout the entire world," he said.

Tracing Claudel's double career as a diplomat and poet, he said he was like a powerful oak tree which had come to its supreme fruition and filled the entire horizon.

The conclusion by a tribute to the poet of Claudel's Christian faith from which his creative inspiration was derived.

Chamoux died at the age of 61. —France-Press.

Cambodian Bible

Phnompenh, Feb. 24.

The first edition of the Bible in the Cambodian language was on sale here today.

The edition was sponsored by the Evangelical Mission. —France-Press.

A British Crossword Puzzle



- ACROSS**
- 1 Vegetable (6).
 - 2 Hot drink (5).
 - 3 Renown (5).
 - 4 Talcum (5).
 - 5 Girl's name (6).
 - 6 Narrowed to a point (7).
 - 7 Repeated from memory (7).
 - 8 Summary (6).
 - 9 Sweet smell (5).
 - 10 Averred (6).
 - 11 Lowest point (6).
 - 12 Dog (5).
- DOWN**
- 1 Specimens (5).
 - 2 Of the nose (5).
 - 3 Archbishop (7).
 - 4 Part of a shoe (6).
 - 5 Scatter (5).
 - 6 Told the tale (6).
 - 7 Fenced in (6).
 - 8 Devotees (7).
 - 9 Motive (6).
 - 10 Merchant (6).
 - 11 Confeds (5).
 - 12 Royal line (5).

YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD—Across: 1. Arie, 4. Bristol, 8. Brae, 9. Lies, 10. Scratch, 11. Exit, 12. Sign, 14. Confuse, 17. Unity, 18. Wager, 22. Fathers, 23. Weds, 27. Gain, 28. Cautel, 29. Inch, 30. Even, 31. Sonade, 32. Cash, Down: 2. Talcum, 3. Absent, 4. Basic, 5. Rector, 6. Schiz, 7. Lack, 13. Burt, 15. Gilt, 16. Ure, 18. Yare, 19. Argued, 20. Awaiting, 21. Edicts, 25. Aware, 26. Heeds, 27. Salvo.

Jap Election Tempo Stepped Up

Tokyo, Feb. 24.

The tempo of electioneering stepped up on Thursday in Japan's most important elections since the end of World War II with Prime Minister Ichiro Hatoyama's Democrats gaining ground every day.

A rash of oddities peculiar to the Japanese political scene also cropped up with the February 27 elections but three days away.

Public opinion polls indicated the Democrats steadily gaining ground over their nearest rivals. The most recent poll said Mr Hatoyama's Democrats should take 186 of the 467-seat House with the Liberals getting about 130. Left and Right wing Socialist parties would win some 133 seats with 10 seats going to other splinter parties, according to the poll.

"EVIL COURSE"

Former Prime Minister Shigeru Yoshida blasted Mr Hatoyama's policy toward Russia and said it would only take Japan on an "evil course." Mr Hatoyama advocates normalising relations with Russia and eventually recognising Red China.

Mr Hatoyama, racing around to speaking engagements, was stopped by the police on Thursday for speeding. Given a warning and released, the Prime Minister and his car sped away in a cloud of dust to make up for lost time.

In Yamaguchi Prefecture in Western Japan, the Right Socialists registered a complaint. Some 200,000 election bulletins distributed by the Government credited the Liberal Party platform to the Socialists.

REDS DROP OUT

Communist candidates were dropping out of the race with 28 indicating their withdrawal in an obvious manoeuvre to give their voting strength to the Socialists.

Some 1,118 persons had violated the strict election laws. Vote buying was most prevalent with violations of restrictions on posters and pamphlets, house-to-house canvassing, interference with electioneering and speech violations making up most of the remainder.

Public opinion polls indicated the newcomers had little chance of breaking into the political scene because of the many campaign restriction laws. It was almost impossible for the newcomers to make themselves known. Women were asked in editorials to take a keen interest in the coming elections. Some 41 per cent said they would vote, according to a recent poll.—United Press.

Settle Austrian Question

FIRST STEP TO LASTING PEACE

Vienna, Feb. 24.

An agreement on Austrian question would be the first step toward lasting peace, the Foreign Minister, Herr Leopold Figl told a meeting of the Austrian "Peace Association" which was held here today.

He said his Government wanted friendly relations with all countries and not with just one country or coalition of groups of countries.

Herr Figl denied the alleged Communist statements which purportedly said Austria is setting up military units for the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation.

He said, "The Soviet Foreign Minister, Mr. V. M. Molotov, would certainly not have called for pulling out of occupation troops from our country, if he were convinced that Austria was preparing to join the NATO forces."

Herr Figl said Austria would keep strictly to the 68,000-man army which is provided for in the Austrian State Treaty, if the treaty were approved.

He said Austria has tried to keep good relations with all its neighbours, including Yugoslavia and the "popular democracies" in the East and Italy in the West.

"A stepping up of tension in Austria could have unpredictable results," he concluded. —France-Press.

RED GRENADE CACHE FOUND IN SINGAPORE

Singapore, Feb. 24.

The Singapore Police dug up 147 grenades on the eastern suburb last night, believed to have been buried by the Malayan Communist Party.

A Police spokesman said that the grenades were contained in two earthenware jars tightly sealed and buried about nine inches below ground level. They were British-made and believed to be part of a prewar dump buried in the jungle north of Singapore.

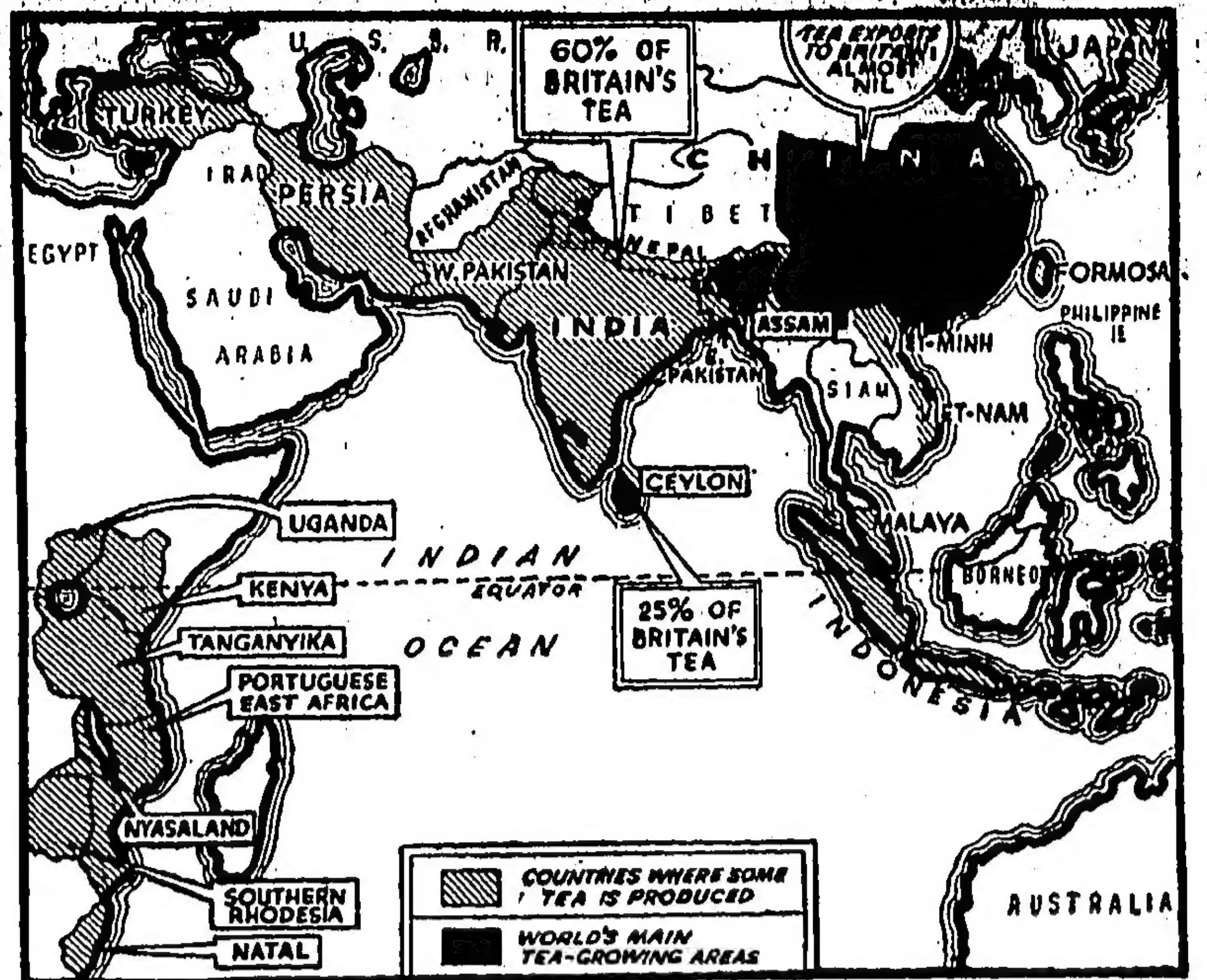
The Director of the Special Branch, Mr. A. E. G. Blades, said that discovery of the grenades was the direct result of the detention and interrogation of a chain of students who left Chinese middle schools here in 1953 and 1954.

He said that according to information the grenades were purchased by the "A" branch of the Malayan Communist Party in Singapore and re-buried. This branch of the MCP is chiefly concerned with subversive activity in Chinese middle schools and among the intelligentsia.

"COMRADE D" Mr Blades said that the leader of "A" branch, known among his followers as "Comrade D" was among a group of students expelled from the Chinese High School in 1954.

The Special Branch chief said that the "A" branch is the biggest of the two main branches of the Malayan Communist Party in Singapore but would not reveal its strength.

FILLING the TEAPOT



Princess Margaret Says Farewell To Jamaica

Port Antonio, Jamaica, Feb. 24.

A cheerful unruffled Princess Margaret waved goodbye to Jamaica today from a Royal barge which bounced and bobbed on white capped waves.

Then she boarded the Royal Yacht, Britannia, for two days at sea on the last stage of her month-long tour of the British West Indies.

It was thought until the last minute that because of the sea, it might be advisable for her to go by train to Kingston and join the Britannia. But Princess Margaret, a good sailor, did not seem to notice the rough sea as the royal barge took out across the harbour to the yacht.

CHINA NOT AIDING N. VIETNAM

Commission Report

Saigon, Feb. 24.

There is no proof that North Vietnam has been receiving war material from Communist China in violation of the Geneva Armistice Agreements, M. J. Desai, President of the Mixed Armistice Control Commission, told a Press conference here today.

South Vietnam officials had charged that war material was being introduced into the north from China.

M. Desai said, however, the border supervision in the region needed to be reinforced. He said a special mobile patrol would be sent to the area.

Some 14 mobile patrols were also investigating complaints from both north and south on the violations of armistice provisions for the free movement of refugees from one zone to the other, he said.

M. Desai said that the second provisional report resuming activities of the Control Commission from December 11, 1954 to February 10, 1955 would be sent at the end of the month to British Foreign Secretary, Sir Anthony Eden and Soviet Foreign Minister Mr. V. M. Molotov, who presided at the Geneva Conference. —France-Press.

AMERICAN HOTEL IN BOND ST

Southampton, Feb. 24.

The first American hotel in Britain—a 200-room, 250-bed luxury establishment—will be opened in London next Tuesday.

This was announced by Mr. James Knott, Chairman of the Knott Hotel Corporation, who arrived here from the United States to attend the opening of the hotel, the Westbury, in London's fashionable Bond Street.

Asked by a reporter whether there would be a colour bar at the new hotel, he replied that "anti-discrimination" was practised in the United States. —China Mail Special.

"ALL the tea in China"—and none of it for us! With China long out of the market, tea is becoming a luxury again. Three hundred years ago only the rich ever bought it—and they paid 28 a pound!

China supplied the world then. But this century her exports have grown less and less—until, under Communist rule, they have almost disappeared.

India and Ceylon keep stepping up production. But whenever the British housewife dips into her purse to meet the soaring prices, it is a sure sign that the tea supply is falling far short of demand.

OTHER AREAS

There have been attempts to trade with China and import her tea to blend with Indian leaf. These attempts have so far failed.

Newspapers show, however, that there are other areas which could grow tea. No country outside China can yet compare with India and Ceylon, but there are plenty which grow some tea—and could grow more.

Nyasaland, for instance, is a newcomer among tea growers, and already she ranks fourth among the suppliers of the British teapot.

The long-term answer to high tea prices may well lie in developing the industry in Africa and elsewhere.

Russia Trying To Influence W. German Youth

Berlin, Feb. 24.

Mr. Gregory Pushkin, Soviet High Commissioner in Germany, reaffirmed today that Russia had agreed to international control of all-German elections as demanded by the Western Powers.

But he said in a letter to West German youth leaders that only renunciation of the Paris armistice treaties could establish the necessary conditions for reunifying the country.

He said the Soviet Union man unity except that a unified Germany should be a peaceful and democratic state and not join any kind of military alliance directed against the Soviet Union or any other state of the West or the East.

Mr. Pushkin's letter said, Russia had made it clear that if the Paris treaties were ratified, negotiations on reunification of Germany would be "senseless and impossible."

It was impossible not to think that in case of reunification, West Germany would become a military state.

Mr. Pushkin said West German youth could rest assured that the Soviet Union would always give it sympathy and support in a struggle for the unity of Germany "on a peaceful and democratic basis." —Reuter.

Damascus, Feb. 24.

The new Syrian Government of Premier Bahri Asad, tonight won a Parliamentary vote of confidence by a slim margin. The Parliament approved the new Government's policy of cooperation by 65 votes to 55, with two abstentions. —France-Press.

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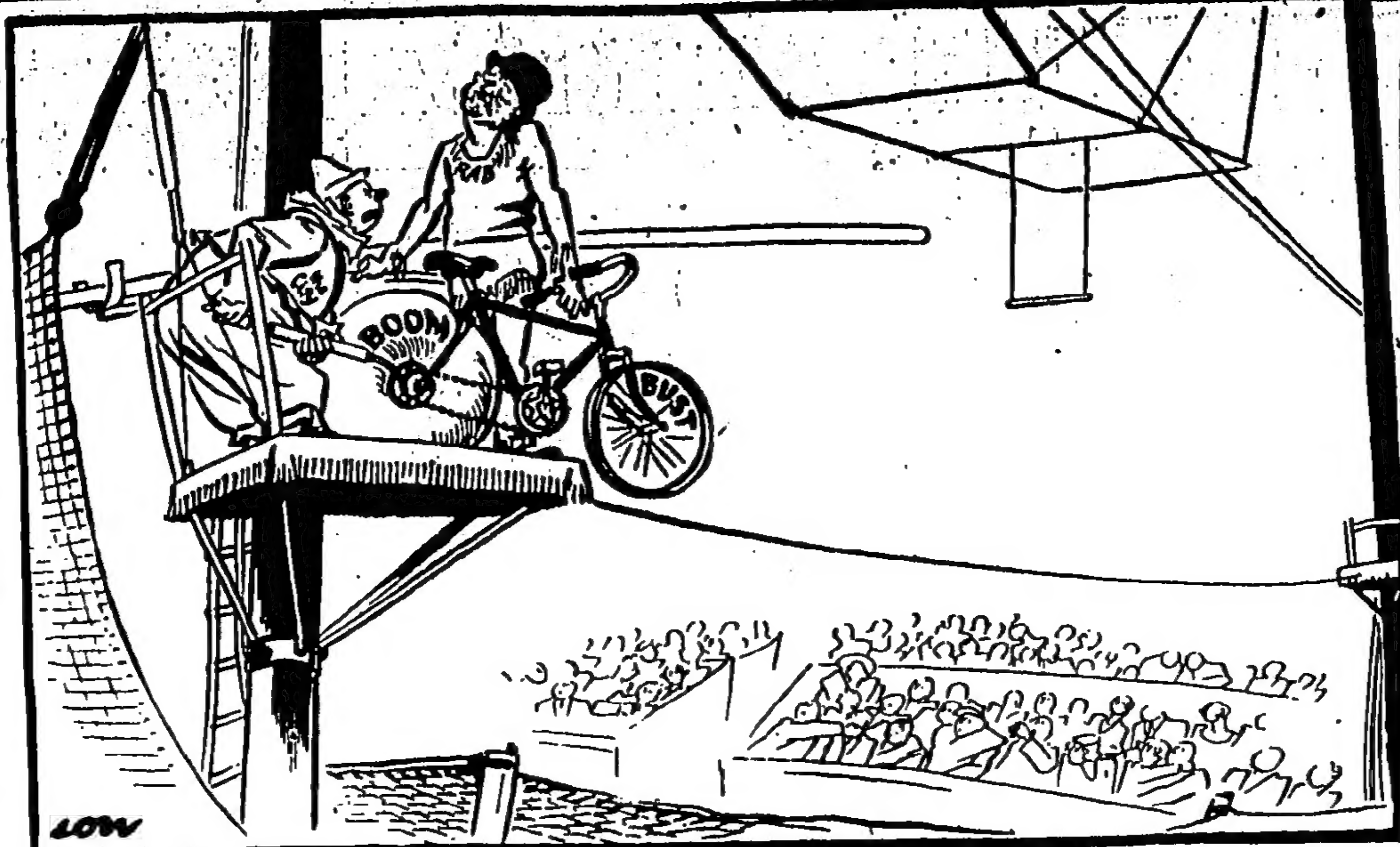
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"IN THIS BUSINESS IT'S NOT ENOUGH TO BE GOOD - ONE MUST ALSO BE CAREFUL"

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Governor - Poet Gets Puerto Rico Bustling

By JACQUELINE ENGERT

AMERICA has a "Jamaica" problem. Penniless citizens from the sunny Caribbean island possession of Puerto Rico have been flooding to the U.S. mainland in thousands since 1946. They create the same housing, job and "neighbour" problems.

But answers are being found — by a poet-politician and his "Operation Bootstrap".

Ten years ago, the beautiful Puerto Rican island "commonwealth," 961 miles off the Florida coast, was a scandal of slums and poverty, overpopulation and disease. It had no resources but people, packed 655 to the square mile. Its nickname was "Uncle Sam's Sweatshop." A U.S. Senate Committee reported Puerto Rican misery was "unsolvable."

Out-of-work islanders poured north into New York's Puerto Rican Harlem until it burst at the seams and spilled Spanish-speaking "foreigners" all over Manhattan. The migrant stream swelled until today one in every twenty New Yorkers is a Puerto Rican. There are nearly 500,000 in the city. Only recently, officials predicted there would be 1,250,000 by 1970.

In 1948, Luis Muñoz Marín, former Greenwich Village Bohemian, intellectual, journalist and poet — became the first elected Governor of his poverty-stricken island. Against experts' prophecies, his now-never "Operation Bootstrap" crusade to boost the island's living standards is performing economic miracles. In five years, 325 new industries have been attracted to the island. Desperate unemployment is cut by one-fifth. The exodus north dropped by nearly 60 percent last year. Some Puerto Ricans are even returning home.



Governor Muñoz

will build a factory for you. It will help you secure loan term finance. It will even screen job applicants for you — and then train them to operate your machines."

Added attractions: The climate is magnificent. The swimming, sailing and fishing are out of this world. And there is tax exemption for ten years. Puerto Rico's meagre living still depends largely on the sugar crop. So one million dollars a year is spent on advertising rum in the United States. Officials say this campaign helps Jamaica too. For Puerto Rico's favourite Scotch whisky "highball" and persuade him to take rum instead. Colourful ads in subways, zines, and in newspapers, proclaiming "Americans are changing their drinking habits — Drink rum!"

The sale of rum brings double riches. Taxes collected on its sale on the American continent are returned to the Puerto Rican treasury. And the man behind this grandiose, high-powered plan? Governor Muñoz, aged 59, a big friendly man. He

loves people about him. He loves to talk. He is an elegant speaker — as well as writer and poet — in English and Spanish. During free moments, he strides off into the mountains, wearing a colourful open-necked sports shirt. There he will squat for hours — with the peasants. They call him "El Vate" — the Bard. People are his first love. People are his first problem. "Operation Bootstrap" would have failed if 370,000 islanders had not left home in a steady flow between 1946 and 1954. Muñoz still has a worrying population surplus on his hands. Puerto Rico has two and a quarter million people. It is only 100 miles long and 35 miles wide.

Mainland Puerto Ricans are an enormous social problem. Large newspaper and radio campaigns, newcomers now know more about jobs, housing, suitable clothing — and they may even know a smattering of English. In America the islanders meet the "colour problem" for the first time. Puerto Ricans are a "mixed" people. Some have a heavy strain of Negro blood which makes them dark-complexioned. Many are not "co-coloured" at all, but mainland Americans lump them together with Negroes. There is competition between the two minority groups.

Hot-blooded

FOR many years Puerto Rican migrants were traditionally left alone by New Yorkers. They festered in the worst slums. Some were victims of unscrupulous landlords. Families share single rooms at \$20 or \$25 a week. Mothers often find work first. Children roam the city streets and become delinquents. Crime rates are high. Hot-blooded "Latin" are notorious for using knives and for "muggings"; a stroller is

brought down with a hand over his mouth and a knee in his back, and robbed. Numbers found they could live idly on the dole. Islanders — forming their own ever-spreading communities, with Spanish cinemas, drug stores, super-markets and restaurants — got a bad reputation. Diverse social agencies — including a Mayor's Committee on Puerto Rican Affairs — now work to get 500,000 Puerto Rican New Yorkers into the "melting pot." New York has taken in all manner of foreign peoples and cultures before. It is a patchwork of Hungarian, Czech, German, French, Chinese, Negro and Puerto Rican sections. City officials say migrants from the sun-drenched Caribbean may be civic leaders in another 20 years.

Fanatics

MISUNDERSTANDING for Puerto Ricans is increased by nationalist outrages — the attempted Blair House assassination of President Truman in 1950; the shooting of Representatives in Congress by fanatics last year.

But Governor Muñoz stresses: "Puerto Rico is not demanding independence. It is shown by the fact that 61 percent of the voters of the island have declared that they do not ask independence. It is shown by the vigour with which both people and Government repudiate the handful of national fanatics that occasionally fire real bullets into the real world from the bastions of their utter fantasy."

Puerto Ricans wisely prefer to remain within the American tariff walls. The island "commonwealth" status, which came into effect in July 1953, was a compact made by the United States and Puerto Rico as two separate states. President Eisenhower promises Puerto Rico "absolute independence" any time the island asks for it.

But, says Governor Muñoz: "No commonwealth, no 'Bootstrap'. No 'Bootstrap' and we sink."

AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY ON THE SLOPES OF EVEREST

WHEN you are the British Ambassador in Nepal, just what are your powers?

Well, judge for yourself when you have read this story ...

Mr Ralph Izzard, a Daily Mail reporter, was warned by Colonel John Hunt (as he then was) that the copy-right of news about the successful British Mount Everest expedition had been bought by the Times. So he decided to chase the expedition to its base camp 200 miles from Katmandu, capital of Nepal.

Times in Katmandu. When reports came back from the mountain, Summerhayes did not even show them to the outraged correspondent whom the Times had sent there, before despatching them himself to London. Izzard, completely untrained, reached the base camp, 18,000 ft up, in record time. The few expedition members left there greeted him with embarrassment. The most they could offer him was cups of tea and general little-tattle, but no news. And when he attempted to photograph them they dodged into their tents.

Half an hour of this and Izzard had to walk the 200 miles back — catching fever on the way. Finally came news that Everest had been conquered. Izzard had been sent in code to Summerhayes. Previously he is said to have been the Daily Telegraph's correspondent on the expedition. Izzard is now a reporter on the staff of the Daily Telegraph.

extracted a promise that the ambassador would tell him after two hours.

Now, in fact, it was not till nearly 15 hours afterwards that they were told. By then the news had been received back in Katmandu from America.

Mr Summerhayes transmitted the news at 8.30 p.m. on June 1 to London; but he did not tell the King of Nepal or the other correspondents, including the Times man, Mr Arthur Hutchingson, until 9 a.m. on June 2.

PARIS NEWSLETTER MR FRANCE PLANS A COME-BACK From Sam White

PARIS. As an aftermath of the Mendes-France revolution there is likely to be a great deal of head-tolling in Government departments. He removed many officials too closely associated with previous administrations. Now they are clamouring to get back. There is the case of half a dozen pro-European Army diplomats whom Mendes-France named as envoys in minor embassies in the Middle East and Far East. Many of these have been prolonging their leave in Paris hoping for a change of Government. Now there may be more pleasing news for them.

Shrewd move

A top French civil servant, A. Jean Monnet, head of the European Coal and Steel Community, who announced his resignation recently because of disagreement with M. Mendes-France, may now be persuaded to stay put.

There were his unforgivable successes, his national and international standing, his intellectual arrogance, his biting tongue when dealing with the parliamentary mediocrities pitted against him.

There was also a whisper of anti-Semitism in the campaign against him.

Almost reeling with fatigue, his face bruised by lack of sleep, he tried to make a last statement, after his defeat, Mendes-France managed to launch a slogan which is likely to be his rallying cry in the future. The slogan: France has acquired a liking for the bitter-sweet taste of truth.

His popularity in the country remains enormous. Newspapers are receiving a big mail voicing public disgust at his fall. In Paris cinemas his appearance in a newscast is loudly applauded.

For the time being, Mendes-France intends to escape from it all by taking a three months' holiday. He will return as a nationally recognised Opposition leader, something which France has not had for nearly 30 years.

Great appeal

The outlines of a Left bloc led by him have already taken shape. It includes most of the Socialists and many of the Gaullists.

The aim of this bloc will be to win the French General Election in April next year. The bloc hopes to gain some two or three million votes from the steady six million the Communists have polled ever since the liberation.

Under Mendes-France's leadership, too, the bloc will have a great appeal for the youth of the country.



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Co., Limited, have great
pleasure in announcing a
merger of their plantation
agency interests in Malaya. A
new Company is in the pro-
cess of being formed
designated "Plantation
Agencies Limited" which will
take over the estate agencies
previously conducted sepa-
rately by the above Companies.

The new Company will
start operating as from 1st
April 1955. Plantation Agen-
cies Limited will have the full
support of Messrs. Jardine
Matheson & Co., Limited, and
an executive from their
Company will be the first
Chairman of the Board of
Directors of Plantation
Agencies Limited.

Hongkong: 26th Feb., 1955.

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NOTICE

THE HONGKONG AND
SHANGHAI BANKING
CORPORATION

Ordinary Yearly General
Meeting

NOTICE IS HEREBY
GIVEN that the Ordinary
Yearly General Meeting of
the Shareholders of the
Corporation will be held
at the Head Office of the
Corporation, 1 Queen's Road
Central, Hong Kong, on
Friday the 11th day of March,
1955, at Noon for the purpose
of receiving and considering
the reports of the Directors
and of the Auditors and the
Profit and Loss Account and
Balance Sheet for the year
ended 31st December, 1954,
and for the election of Direc-
tors and the appointment of
Auditors.

THE REGISTER OF
SHARES of the Corporation
will be closed from Friday,
the 25th of February to Fri-
day, the 11th of March, 1955,
(both days inclusive) during
which period no transfer of
shares can be registered.

By Order of the Board,

MICHAEL W. TURNER,
Chief Manager

Hongkong, 1st Feb., 1955

NOTICE

THE HONGKONG AND
SHANGHAI BANKING
CORPORATION
HONG KONG

Extraordinary General
Meeting

NOTICE IS HEREBY
GIVEN that an Extra-
ordinary General Meeting of
the Shareholders of the
Corporation will be held at
the Head Office of the
Corporation, 1 Queen's Road
Central, Hong Kong on Friday
the 11th day of March 1955
at 12.20 p.m. or so soon
afterwards as the Ordinary
Yearly General Meeting is
concluded, when the subjoined
resolutions will be submitted
as Ordinary Resolutions.

1. That the capital of the
Corporation be increased
from twenty million
Hong Kong dollars to
twenty five million Hong
Kong dollars by the
creation of forty thou-
sand new shares of one
hundred and twenty five
Hong Kong dollars each.

2. That:— (a) It is desir-
able to capitalise a sum
of five million Hong
Kong dollars being part
of the undivided profits
of the Corporation
standing to the credit of
the Reserve Fund and
accordingly that such
sum be capitalised and
applied in payment in
full for forty thousand
new shares of one
hundred and twenty five
Hong Kong dollars each
and that such shares
credited as fully paid up
be distributed amongst
the shareholders who on
the 11th day of March
1955 were registered
shareholders of the
Corporation in the pro-
portion of one new share
for every four then held
by such shareholders
respectively and that
such shares shall rank
for dividend as from the
1st day of January 1955
and shall in all other
respects rank *pari passu*
with the existing shares
of the Corporation.

(b) The Board be hereby
authorised to allot and
issue such new shares
for distribution in the
manner and proportions
aforesaid.

By Order of the Board,

MICHAEL W. TURNER,
Chief Manager

Hongkong, 1st Feb., 1955

Doors Dying Of Metal Cancer

Florence, Feb. 24.

The three famous sculptured doors of the
Baptistry here, known to millions of foreign
tourists, are slowly dying of metal cancer.

The ravages of air and dust through more
than 500 years, combined with the gilding
technique used by the Renaissance artists and the
inevitable effects of periodical restoration, are
causing experts grave concern.

Two of the doors are the work of the famous 15th
century sculptor Lorenzo Ghiberti and the third, the
south door, is the work of Andrea Pisano.

Of the three, the most famous
is the east door, known as the
"Door of Paradise," on which
Ghiberti has portrayed the
creation of Adam and Eve and
in the Garden of Eden, the Fall
and the story of nine other out-
standing incidents from Old
Testament history, up to Solo-
mon receiving the Queen of
Sheba.

The other two doors depict
scenes from the New Testament.

NOTHING CAN BE DONE
Apparently nothing can be
done to save these doors
short of putting them under
glass or removing them to a
museum.

Professor Bruno Boenzi, who
restored the gold coating of the
doors to its original splendour
six years ago, said that it would
be impossible to protect them
by plates of glass, because the
reflections of surrounding build-
ings would prevent them from
being seen properly.

He and his assistants have
given the doors five to six de-
cades' face-liftings each year
since. They have done it with
great care using non-corrosive
chemicals and scraping the sur-
faces as gently as possible.
Still, the gold coating has been
worn thinner and thinner.

But that is not all.
Ghiberti and Pisano used not
pure gold leaf but a mixture of

gold and mercury which gave
the coating a grained and porous
quality.

Professor Boenzi explained
that the air, acting through the
pores, causes chemical changes
in the bronze alloy and forms a
hard black layer between the
gold coating and the bronze,
some three millimetres thick.

He said that a protective
varnish to plug the pores would
prevent the bronze underneath
from "breathing" and cause
slow bursting. Moreover, the
varnish would soon become
opaque and have to be removed
from time to time. This would
further damage the gold
coating. He rejected a sugges-
tion that he might perhaps
apply a fresh coating of gold.

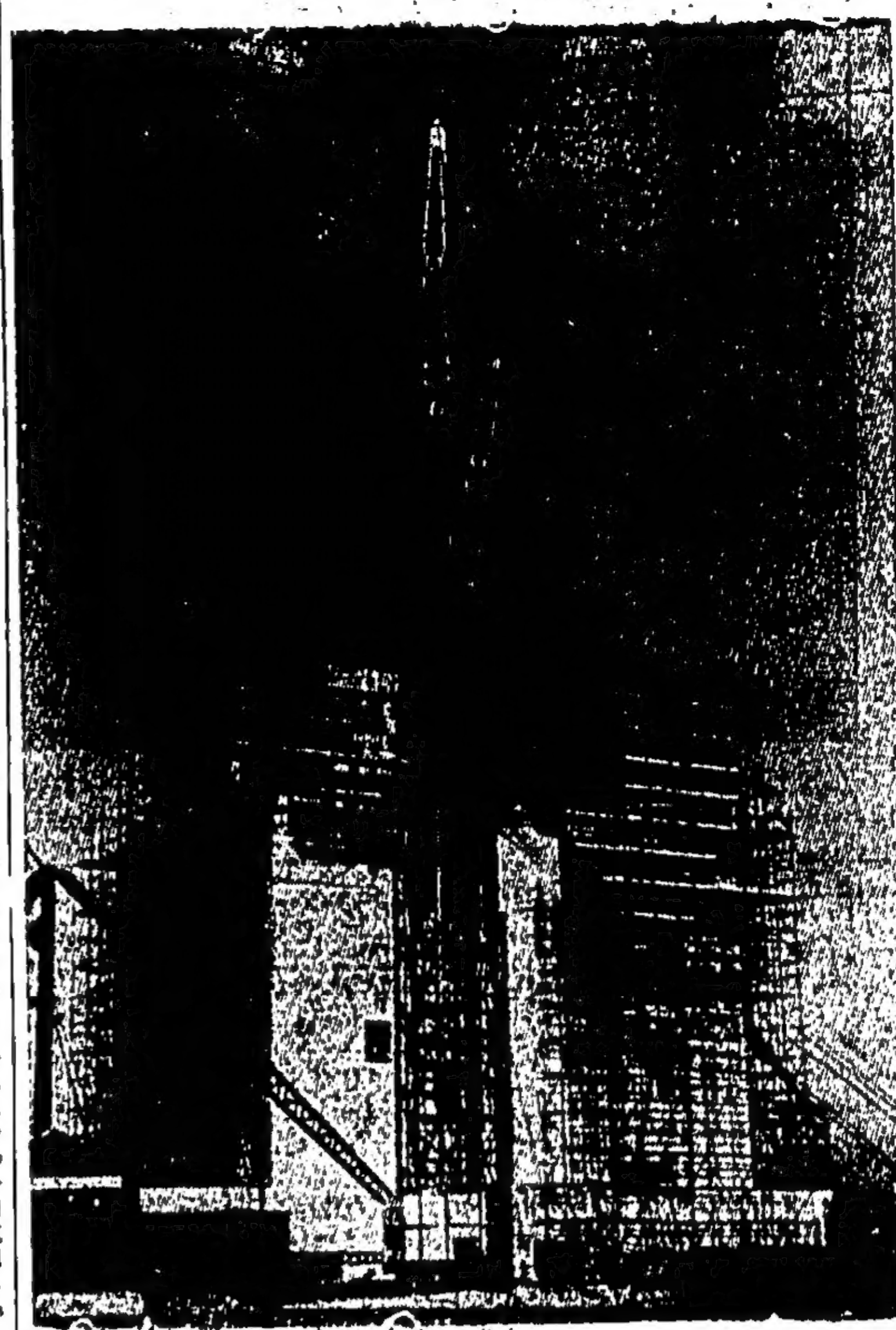
SCRAPE OFF GOLD

"It would be necessary to
scrape off the gold and the
layer which has gradually
formed underneath in order
to reach the healthy
bronze," he explained. "The
result would be disastrous."

Equally as concerned about
the doors as the experts are
the people of Florence. For they
are among these famous works
of art which bring so many
tourists to their city—tourists
who spend some 16,000 million
lire (about £8,200,000,000, or
25,000,000 dollars) a year here.

—China Mail Special.

Industrial Revolution



The British Government
have announced a ten-year,
£300,000,000 plan to produce
electricity from uranium.

This picture shows one of
the two identical reactors
which are being built at Brit-
tain's first atomic power
station in Cumberland. These
piles will be brought into
operation in the near future
and will use natural uranium
moderated with graphite.
They will be cooled by carbon
dioxide under pressure.—Ex-
press Photo.

JAMAICA IS PLANNING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

300 YEARS SINCE PENN
AND VENABLES LANDED

Kingston, Jamaica, Feb. 24.

Jamaica is planning island-wide celebrations
this year to mark the 300th anniversary of the
landing of Admiral Penn and General Venables at
Passage Fort, near Kingston, on May 10, 1655.

This landing marked the beginning of British
rule in Jamaica, although the island was not
formally ceded to England by Spain until the
signature of the Treaty of Madrid in 1670. The
Spaniards had taken possession of it in 1509,
fifteen years after its discovery on May 3, 1494, by
Christopher Columbus, who called it St. Iago—St.
James.

This year's celebrations, being held under the
slogan "Jamaica 300," will commemorate 300 years of
progress and development as a member of the family
of the British Commonwealth Nations.

Officially, the tercentenary
began on January 10, with a
great open air non-denominational
religious service on the Kingston
Race Course. But the peak of
the celebrations will not be
reached until May 16, the anni-
versary of the landing of Admiral
Penn and General Venables,
when a mobile carnival will
take to the road and travel
throughout the island, present-
ing historical tableaux and sing-
ing and dancing by leading
Jamaican entertainers.

January events included a
horse show and gymkhana at
Knutsford Park, an orchid ex-
hibition including entries from
many foreign countries, and an
open golf championship.

Sport has an important part
in the programme. Cricket,
hockey, tennis, basketball, box-
ing, swimming, water polo, and foot-
ball are all represented.

But cricket takes pride of
place. For the first time in the
history of the game on the
island, the Australians are com-
ing here. They will play two
Test matches and two Colony
matches on the island between
March and June.

INTER-COLONIAL MATCHES
Trinidad will also visit
Jamaica for an inter-
colonial contest of two
matches in February.
An English football team is
due in May and there will be a
big track athletics meeting in
July, at which Jamaica's track
stars will compete against visit-
ing stars from the United States
and Britain.

Princess Alice, who is Chan-
cellor of the University College
of the West Indies, arrived here
with her husband, the Earl of
Athlone, on January 17 for a
stay of several months.

In May Jamaica will be host
to a delegation from the
Commonwealth Parliamentary
Association, which will hold its
annual meeting on the island.

Heading the list of shows and
exhibitions will be the big
agricultural show, at Denbigh
on June 8 and 9, which will be
attended by visitors from the
British territories in the Carib-
bean, from the neighbouring re-
publics of Haiti and Cuba,
from Puerto Rico, as well as the
United States, Canada, and
Great Britain.

INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION
In August, there will be
an industrial exhibition to
match the agricultural show
and to bring home not only
Jamaica, but to the visitors
from overseas the progress
which the island has made
in industry.

Preparations have also been
made for a National Festival of
Art to be held during the year,
taking in every parish and in-
cluding all the arts practised on
the island—painting, sculpture,
music, elocution and drama.—
China Mail Special.

More Lepers
Found In
S'pore Schools

Singapore, Feb. 24.
More than 100 suspected cases
of leprosy had been discovered
among Singapore school children
during the past year.

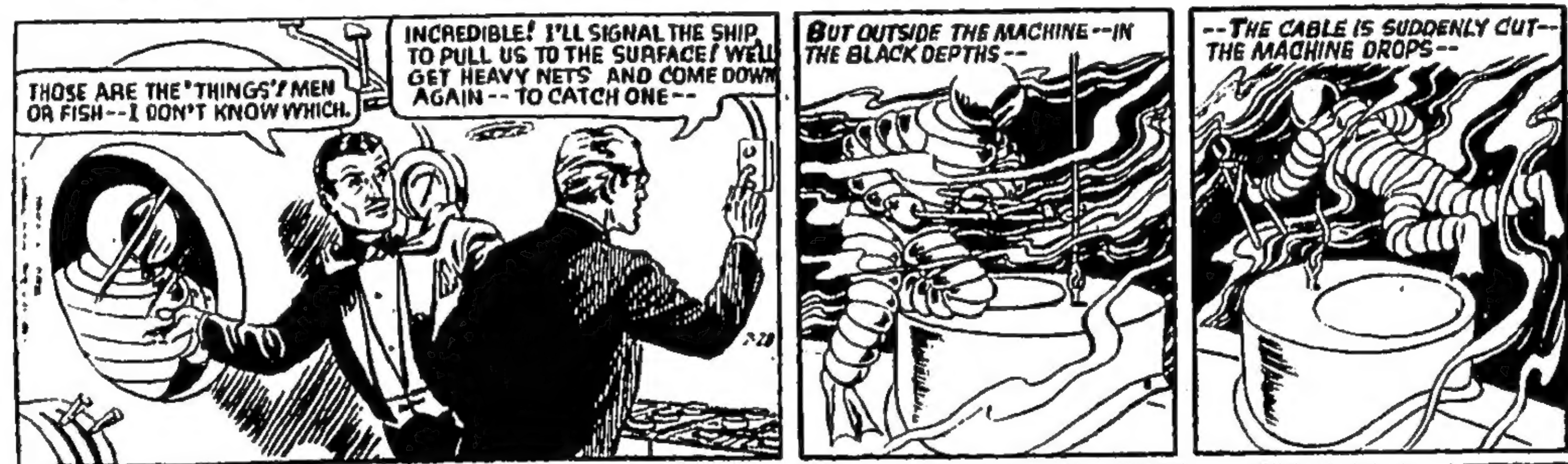
The President of the Singa-
pore Leprosy Relief Association,
Canon R. S. Adams, recently
admitted that there had been
an increase, but added that this
was partly due to the fact that
more cases were being
discovered and not reported as
in the past.

He said that people now
showed a greater readiness to
come forward for treatment as
they began to get over "the old
and unjustified horror" of the
disease.

He stressed that leprosy was
contagious only under prolonged
and intimate contact, and that
new cases, if properly treated,
could usually be cured.
—France Press.

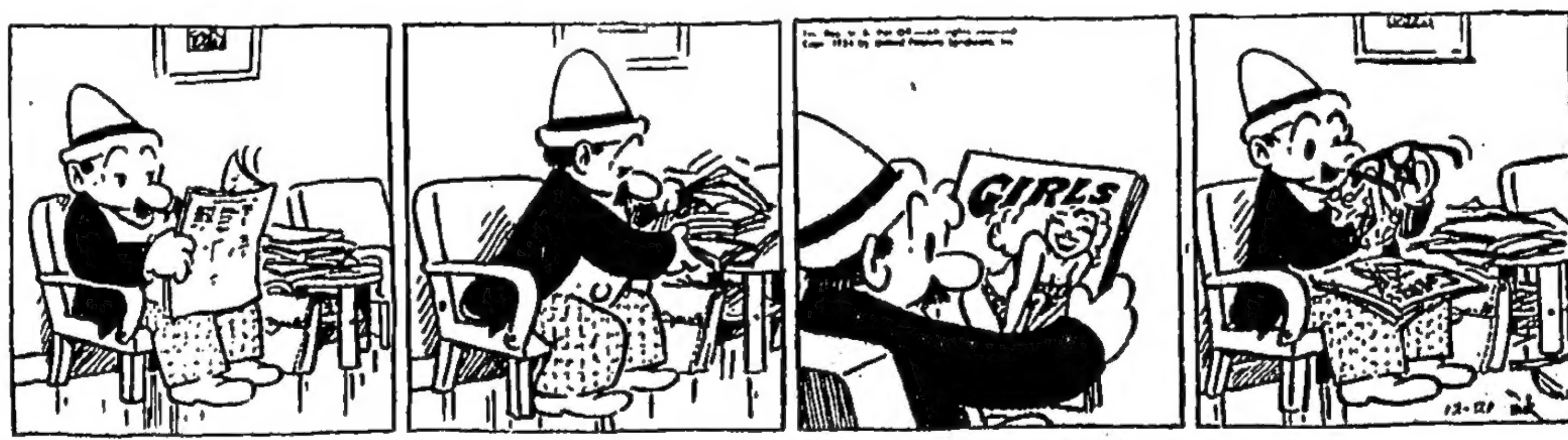
MANDRAKE THE MAGICIAN

By Lee Falk and Phil Davis



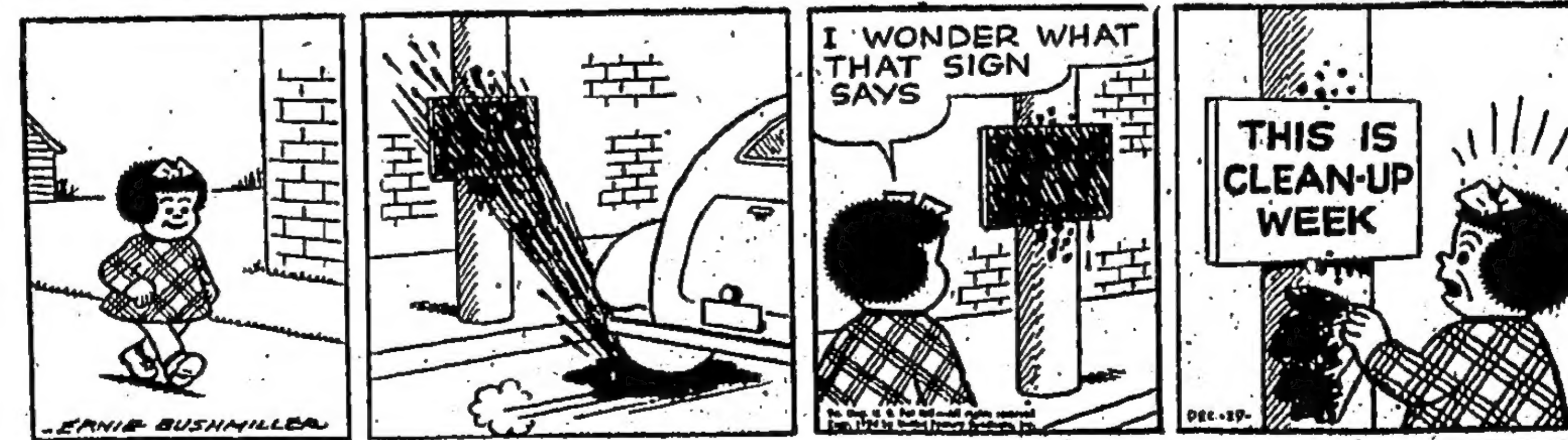
FERD'NAND

By Mik



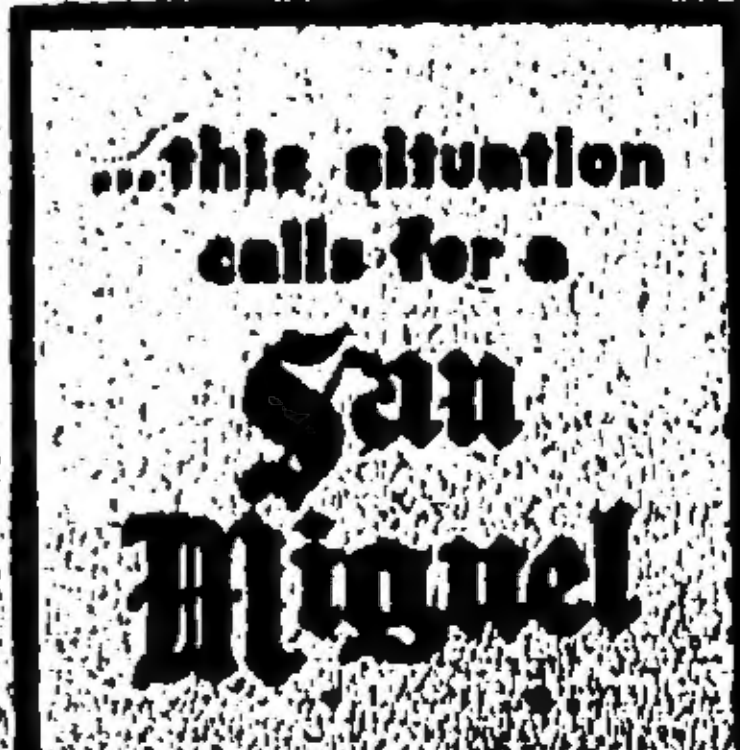
NANCY

By Ernie Bushmiller



JOHNNY HAZARD

By Frank Robbins



NEW YORK STOCK MARKET

New York, Feb. 24. Prices on the New York Stock Exchange declined sharply early today, but a late rally wiped out 60 per cent of the early losses.

The break followed a precipitated drop in the London Stock Exchange — the worst since Sir Winston Churchill met defeat by Labour in 1945.

Dumping of stocks in London was touched off when the Bank of England raised its discount rate from 3 1/2 to 4 1/2 per cent and tightened instalment credit controls.

New York stocks also suffered for a time from what was described as "disappearing dividend" action from several companies, such as an omission of the usual extra by DuPont Company and usual dividends for American Agricultural Chemical, General Precision Equipment Corp. and Union Pacific.

Later on the dividend fund turned about with such favorable action as a resumption of payments by Electric Auto-Lite and American dividend for Inspiration Copper, Chile Copper, Black & White, General Corp. and New Chemical.

SUPPLEMENTED

These favorable dividend actions were supplemented by some highly favorable earnings reports including several in the railway category.

Trading lightened to 2,920,000 shares from yesterday's 3,030,000 shares.

Later trading produced a strong feature in American Petroleum which soared to \$22 1/2, up 1 1/2 points before moving profit-taking. It closed at \$21 1/2.

Oil futures gained 3 1/2 points on the day to \$11 3/4, and high priced oil of California rose up 35 points to \$100.

The steel, weak earlier in the day, came back under the leadership of Bethlehem which closed at \$120 1/2, up \$1.

Du Pont, which touched an early low of \$17 1/2, came back when the company announced it has discovered a method of making paper from synthetic fibers. The stock, selling ex-dividend, closed at \$17 3/4, up 3/4 point.

Aircrafts were irregularly lower.

Automobile issues closed narrowly irregular.

A total of 292 issues advanced with 41 of them setting 1954-55 new high, while 700 declined, three of them to new lows. There were 224 issues of the 1,216 traded that finished unchanged.

The New York Stock Exchange bond volume was \$4,000,000.

The American Stock Exchange volume was 1,330,000 shares.

Dow Jones closing averages were:

30 Industrials 418.30
20 Rails 148.44
15 Utilities 62.00
45 Stocks 100.10
Comm. Future price index 102.22

YESTERDAY'S PRICES

Feb. 24	Feb. 23
Alden Inc. Ag.	94 1/2
Allis-Chalmers	94 1/2
American Airlines	25 1/2
American Metal	60
American Smelting	10 1/2
American Tel. & Tel.	10 1/2
American Tobacco	63 1/2
Armstrong	15 1/2
Armstrong	15 1/2
Balwin-Lima-Hamilton	10 1/2
Bathurst & Co.	10 1/2
Bentley Aviation Corp.	11 1/2
Bentley Corp.	11 1/2
Bethlehem Steel	120 1/2
Bethlehem Steel	120 1/2
Boston Airplane	10 1/2
Canadian Pacific Railway	30 1/2
Case (J. I.) Co.	10 1/2
Chile Copper	10 1/2
Chrysler Motors	10 1/2
Commercial Credit	40 1/2
Commonwealth Elec.	40 1/2
Consolidated Edison	40 1/2
Continental Steel	23 1/2
Corn Products	10 1/2
Cuba Sugar	10 1/2
Curtis Wright	10 1/2
Dupont de Nemours	10 1/2
Eastman Kodak	10 1/2
General Electric	10 1/2
General Motors	10 1/2
Gillette Safety Razor	10 1/2
Goodrich (B. F.) Co.	10 1/2
Goodyear Tire & Rubber	10 1/2
Honolulu Mining Co.	10 1/2
International Business	10 1/2
International Harvester	10 1/2
International Nickel	10 1/2
International Paper	10 1/2
International Tel. & Tel.	10 1/2
John-Manville Co.	10 1/2
Kennecott Copper	10 1/2
Lockheed Aircraft	10 1/2
Lowell Inc.	10 1/2
Long Star Cement Co.	10 1/2
Minnesota Mining	10 1/2
Montgomery Ward	10 1/2
National Cash Register	10 1/2
National Distillers	10 1/2
National Lead	10 1/2
New York Central	10 1/2
Olin Industries	10 1/2
Pacific Gas & Electric	10 1/2
Pan American Airways	10 1/2
Pennsylvania	10 1/2
Phillips Petroleum	10 1/2
Pittsburgh Plate Glass	10 1/2
Radio Corporation	10 1/2
Republic Steel	10 1/2
Shell Oil Co.	10 1/2
Standard Oil	10 1/2
Standard Brands	10 1/2
Standard Oil of California	10 1/2
Standard Oil of New Jersey	10 1/2
Standard Oil of Ohio	10 1/2
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Standard Oil of Indiana	10 1/2
Standard Oil of Illinois	10 1/2
Standard Oil of Missouri	10 1/2
Standard Oil of North Dakota	10 1/2
Standard Oil of Oklahoma	10 1/2
Standard Oil of Texas	10 1/2
Standard Oil of Wisconsin	10 1/2
Standard Oil of Pennsylvania	10 1/2
Standard Oil of Maryland	10 1/2
Standard Oil of Delaware	10 1/2
Standard Oil of Virginia	10 1/2
Standard Oil of West Virginia	10 1/2
Standard Oil of Kentucky	10 1/2
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